

PAST SIMPLE & PAST CONTINUOUS

B1 | Teens / Adults | Grammar Question Writing | 20-30 minutes

Complete questions, write detailed answers and form questions of your own.

EXAMPLE

Question: What **were** you **doing** when the lights went out?

Answer: I **was cooking**, so I **used** my phone as a torch.

Remember: Past simple: completed events. Past continuous: background or activity in progress.

A. COMPLETE AND ANSWER

Complete the questions using the grammar cues. Write full answers with a relevant detail.

1. What _____ you _____ at eight last night? (do; in progress)

Answer: _____

2. Where _____ you _____ last weekend? (go)

Answer: _____

3. What _____ you _____ when you last got a message? (do)

Answer: _____

4. _____ anything unusual _____ yesterday? (happen)

Answer: _____

B. WRITE THE QUESTIONS

Put the words in order. Write each question. Start with a capital letter and add ?.

1. rang / were / phone / you / when / what / your / doing

2. last / who / you / did / weekend / meet

3. time / at / yesterday / working / you / this / were

Try it: Ask your partner the questions in B. Ask one follow-up of your own.

PAST SIMPLE & PAST CONTINUOUS

B1 | Teens / Adults | Grammar Question Writing | 20-30 minutes

Answer key | Keep this page separate during student practice.

A. COMPLETE AND ANSWER

Target forms and model answers are shown below. Personal answers will vary.

1. were / doing - What were you doing at eight last night?

Sample answer: I was watching a documentary while my sister was doing her homework.

2. did / go - Where did you go last weekend?

Sample answer: I went to a nearby town to visit an old friend.

3. were / doing - What were you doing when you last got a message?

Sample answer: I was waiting for a bus when a friend messaged me.

4. Did / happen - Did anything unusual happen yesterday?

Sample answer: Yes, a neighbour found my lost keys and brought them round.

B. WRITE THE QUESTIONS

1. What were you doing when your phone rang?

2. Who did you meet last weekend?

3. Were you working at this time yesterday?

TEACHER NOTES

Use past continuous for the specified background; check past simple forms in personal answers.

Accept correct full forms and contractions. Check that answers match the question.

Encourage one relevant detail; check word order, capitals and question marks in B.